

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7714

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 3828

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, PORG, AF, KS, PR, RQ

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS-REVIEW OF POST ACTIONS

REF: STATE 115833

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING RECOUNTS SERIES OF ACTIONS TAKEN HERE DURING PAST YEAR ON PUERTO RICO, KOREA AND CERTAIN OTHER MULTILATERAL ISSUES. ON PUERTO RICO AND KOREA WE ARE GENERALLY OPTIMISTIC AFGHANS WILL ACT IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS TO AMELIORATE RADICAL DEMANDS. END SUMMARY.

2. AS SUGGESTED REFTEL DCM AGAIN RAISED SUBJECTS OF KOREA AND PUERTO RICO WHEN HE CALLED MORNING MAY 16 ON MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS SAMAD GHAUS. DRAWING FROM STATE 111286 (PUERTO RICO) AND STATE 98185 (KOREA), DCM LEFT WITH GHAUS INFORMAL POSITION STATEMENT PAPERS ON BOTH ISSUES.

3. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY EMBASSY DURING PAST YEAR PLUS OTHER ASSESSMENTS REQUESTED (REFTEL PARA 6) ON ISSUE OF PUERTO RICO AND KOREA:

A. PUERTO RICO. AMBASSADOR RAISED ISSUE WITH WAHEED ABDULLAH MAY 2, 1976 (KABUL 3366), AND WITH PRESIDENT DAOUD ON MARCH 3, 1976 (KABUL 1648). ON OCTOBER 12, 1975 EMBASSY MADE FORMAL

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1976 (KABUL 1648). ON OCTOBER 12, 1975 EMBASSY MADE FORMAL

WRITTEN DEMARCHE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY BASED UPON STATE 232454 (OCTOBER 1, 1975). THIS FOLLOWED DEMARCHES MADE IN WRITTEN FORM ON AUGUST 26, 1975 (EXPRESSING SATISFACTION THAT AFGHAN DELEGATION AT COMMITTEE OF 24 VOTED TO POSTPONE CONSIDERATION OF THE PUERTO RICO ISSUE) AND AUGUST 16 (ADDRESSING THE PUERTO RICO ISSUE ITSELF AND OUR POSITION REGARDING IT). THESE DEMARCHES REPORTED KABUL 5380 OF 18 AUGUST 1975. THERE IS NO DOUBT AFGHANS KNOW HOW SERIOUSLY WE TAKE THIS ISSUE. WE BELIEVE THEY WILL IN FUTURE QUIETLY TAKE OUR SIDE ON QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO, OR JOIN OTHERS IN SUGGESTING AMELIORATION OF RADICAL ANTI-U.S. PROPOSALS. IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO EXPECT HOWEVER THAT AFGHANS WOULD STAND TALL AGAINST RADICAL PROPOSALS IF THEY FELT THEMSELVES ISOLATED AT MULTILATERAL FORUMS.

B. KOREA. AMBASSADOR RAISED SUBJECT OF U.S. POSITION ON KOREA ALSO DURING MAY 2 TALK WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER WAHEED ABDULLAH (KABUL 3366). CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE ONLY TWO WEEKS AFTER DEPARTURE OF SPECIAL REPUBLIC OF KOREA POLITICAL DELEGATION (KABUL 3136), AND EMBASSY HAD DURING ALL THIS PERIOD BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH ROK AMBASSADOR MEUNG JUN CHOI. (ANOTHER ROK SPECIAL ENVOY, DR. SEE-YOUNG CHUNG, VISITED KABUL LAST AUGUST. SEE KABUL 5330 OF AUGUST 16, 1975.) PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS ON KOREA TOOK PLACE NOVEMBER 25, 1975, WHEN THE AMBASSADOR MENTIONED TO WAHEED ABDULLAH OUR SATISFACTION AT AFGHANISTAN'S ABSTENTION ON THIS ISSUE AT THE U.N.G.A., AND ON NOVEMBER 3 WHEN AMBASSADOR TALKED BRIEFLY WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SAMAD GHASUS, ON KOREA ISSUE. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS UNDERSCORED IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHES TO KOREA ISSUE WHEN HE CALLED WITH AMBASSADOR ON WAHEED ABDULLAH LAST AUTUMN (SEE KABUL 6876 OF OCTOBER 20, 1975). CHARGE (CURRAN) PRESENTED WRITTEN DEMARCHE TO ACTING HEAD OF FOREIGN MINISTRY (GHASUS) ON SEPTEMBER 24, 1975 (SEE KABUL 6308 OF THAT DATE) AND CURRAN-TO-GHASUS DEMARCHE ON KOREA ALSO TOOK PLACE JULY 22, 1975 (SEE KABUL 4746 OF THAT DATE).

AFGHANISTAN HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH ROK AND NORTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT, AND CONSISTENTLY ABSTAINS AT U.N. ON KOREAN ISSUE. AFGHANS, WE BELIEVE, PLAYED USEFUL ROLE AT LIMA DURING CONFIDENTIAL

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AUGUST OF LAST YEAR IN INSISTING, WITH REGARD TO NORTH KOREA'S ENTRY INTO NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, THAT STRICT CRITERIA BE DRAWN FOR JUDGING APPLICATIONS BY NEW MEMBERS AND THAT FINAL DECISIONS REGARDING MEMBERSHIP BE POSTPONED UNTIL TIME OF COLOMBO SUMMIT. (STATE 207467 OF 8/31/75.) WE BELIEVE AFGHANS WILL WORK TO MAINTAIN THEIR GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH KOREAS, AND WILL REMAIN SENSITIVE TO U.S. OPINION AND GOALS ON THIS ISSUE. WHETHER AFGHANS COULD EVER TAKE "HEROIC" STANCE ON THIS IN FACE

OF KIND OF ROUGH TACTICS DEMONSTRATED AT LIMA (STATE 207467
OF 8/31/75) IS HOWEVER QUESTIONABLE.

4. AS REPORTED KABUL 3366 (ALSO KABUL 3419) QUESTION OF ISRAEL'S
POSSIBLE SUSPENSION FROM U.N. FIGURED IN CONVERSATION BETWEEN
AMBASSADOR AND WAHEED ABDULLAH MAY 2, 1976. THIS IS HOWEVER
SUBJECT ABOUT WHICH AFGHANS WILL FOLLOW ANY "ISLAMAC CONSENSUS"
THAT EMERGES. WE SEE SMALL PROFIT IN TAKING UP ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUES
WITH AFGHANS EXCEPT POSSIBLE ON MOST URGENT BASIS IN MOST EXTREME
SITUATION. (SEE ALSO KABUL 1244.)

5. AS REPORTED KABUL 3203 AND 3598 WE HAVE DISCUSSED UNCTAD IV
ISSUE AT HIGH LEVELS (AMBASSADOR WITH MINISTER OF COMMERCE)
AND AT FOREIGN MINISTRY ECONOMIC WORKING LEVELS. WE WILL LOOK
FOR OPPORTUNITIES DURING NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS TO TAKE UP WIDE
ASSORTMENT OF MULTILATERAL ISSUES WITH RANKING AFGHANS.
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